

March 17, 2009

Governor Perdue Announces 2009-2010 Budget Proposals

Gov. Bev Perdue today announced her 2009-2010 proposed budget. Despite facing the most challenging budget situation in decades, her budget increases per-pupil spending, invests in job creation and protects public safety through probation, mental health and anti-gang initiatives.

“I am stepping up to the plate to help our citizens when they need it the most,” Gov. Perdue said. “Despite our nation’s tough economic situation, I stand ready to strengthen our middle class, improve public education and public safety, and ensure that government works smart for our citizens.”

Gov. Perdue’s budget closes a \$6.4 billion cumulative gap and reduces spending by \$2.6 billion over the next two years. Her budget also utilizes \$2.9 billion of federal recovery funds to support critical services and recommends a \$1.3 billion revenue tax change for tobacco products and alcohol.

Gov. Perdue stresses recurring savings rather than one-time actions, asks agency heads to take a targeted approach to identify reductions, and eliminates or reduces 20 programs that are inefficient, duplicative or costly.

Governor Perdue’s Proposed Budget ([complete document here](#))

ECONOMY

- \$50 million to maximize federal resources for infrastructure projects
- \$7 million to revitalize downtown areas through Main Street Solutions